

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00253 111503Z

73

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 IO-10 /084 W

----- 123899

R 081430Z MAR 75 ZDK
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1737
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 253

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, SY

SUBJECT: IRAQI ATTACKS ON SYRIA

REF: BAGHDAD 228; 229

1. I HAVE NOT YET HAD BENEFIT OF EMBASSY DAMASCUS ANALYSIS OF IRAQI CAMPAIGN AGAINST SYRIA REGIME AND ACCUSATIONS OF SYRIAN ASSISTANCE TO KURDS. I HAVE, HOWEVER, CONSULTED WITH WIDE RANGE OF DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES. WHILE THERE IS USUAL DEARTH OF HARD INFORMATION, FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS SEEM MOST VALID, BUT STILL TENATIVE, ABOUT IRAQI CAMPAIGN:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00253 111503Z

2. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP DECLARATION ALMOST CERTAINLY WAS

AGREED TO BY RCC VICE CHAIRMAN SADDAM HUSSEIN, BUT PROBABLY RELUCTANTLY. EXTREMISM OF LANGUAGE AND PUBLIC NATURE OF ATTACK IS CONTRADICTORY TO TYPE OF DIPLOMACY DADDAM HAS ATTEMPTED TO CONDUCT WITH ARAB NEIGHBORS DURING PAST YEAR. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT HE WAS OUTVOTED IN PARTY COUNCIL AND CONSIDERED IT PRUDENT NOT TO OPPOSE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ON THIS ISSUE, AT TIME WHEN DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH IRAN WERE IN PROGRESS. DEPT WILL RECALL THAT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP OVERRULED SADDAM ON LOAN TO INDIA FOR OIL (BAGHDAD 72), ANOTHER ISSUE OF LESS THAN VITAL IMPORTANCE.

3. THERE IS INCREASING EVIDENCE OF GROWING DIVISION BETWEEN SADDAM AND NATIONAL LEADERSHIP, PARTICULARLY ON DEALING WITH PALESTINIANS (BAGHDAD 214). OF 10 KNOWN MEMBERS OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ONLY SADDAM AND PRESIDENT AL-BAKR ARE IRAQIS. REMAINDER ARE SYRIAN(6) AND LEBANESE AND SAUDI. IN ADDITION TO LONG STANDING ENMITY FOR SYRIAN REGIME, THIS GROUP MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THEIR FUTURE PROSPECTS DEPEND ON CONTINUATION OF BAATH MISSION TO PROPAGATE ITS DOCTRINE OF ARAB NATIONALIS. TRADITIONAL DIPLOMACY THAT SADDAM HAS BEEN ADOPTING IS THREAT TO THIS ROLE.

4. THESIS THAT REGIME DOES NOT SUPPORT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP STATEMENT AGAINST SYRIA IS SUPPORTED INTER ALIA BY (A) NO GOI OR REGIONAL PARTY LEADER HAS PUBLICLY SUPPORTED STATEMENT; (B) THERE HAS NOT BEEN USUAL FOLLOW-UP IN MEDIA; AND (C) IRAQI DEL HEADED BY U/S OF MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT CONCLUDED 5 DAY VISIT TO DAMASCUS MARCH 6, DURING WHICH AGREEMENT REACHED TO SET UP JOINT COMMITTEE TO PLAN FOR BAGHDAD-DEIR EZ-ZOR RAILWAY AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION.

5. SYRIAN AMBASSADOR, APPARENTLY RECOGNIZING SPLIT BETWEEN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND REGIME, TELLS COLLEAGUES HE HAS RECOMMENDED THAT DAMASCUS IGNORE ATTACKS.

LOWRIE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, KURDS, PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BAGHDA00253
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750085-0398
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750370/aaaackvq.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BAGHDAD 228, 75 229
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <20 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQI ATTACKS ON SYRIA
TAGS: PFOR, IZ, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006